

Appln. No.: 09/994,088  
Amendment dated January 13, 2006  
Reply to Office Action mailed October 13, 2005

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

#### **Listing of Claims:**

1. **(Previously Presented)** A clamp for clamping an elongate member comprising in combination:
  - a housing for receiving the elongate member;
  - a saddle member movably mounted relative to the housing;
  - a lever cooperating with the housing for moving the saddle member relative to the housing, wherein the saddle member moves generally transverse to the elongate member; and
  - an engaging surface for engaging the elongate member.
2. **(Currently Amended)** ~~The A-clamp of claim 1 for clamping an elongate member comprising in combination:~~
  - ~~a housing for receiving the elongate member;~~
  - ~~a saddle member movably mounted relative to the housing;~~
  - ~~a lever cooperating with the housing for moving the saddle member relative to the housing,~~ wherein the lever cooperates with a housing cam surface on the housing, the housing cam surface having at least two discrete surface areas; and
  - ~~an engaging surface for engaging the elongate member.~~
3. **(Original)** The clamp of claim 2, wherein the housing cam surface defines at least two lever locking positions for engaging the elongate member.
4. **(Cancelled)**
5. **(Previously Presented)** The clamp of claim 1, wherein the engaging surface is integrated into the saddle member for engaging the elongate member.

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6. **(Previously Presented)** The clamp of claim 1, wherein the engaging surface is integrated into the housing for engaging the elongate member.

7. **(Previously Presented)** The clamp of claim 1, wherein engaging surfaces are integrated into both the saddle member and the housing for engaging the elongate member.

8. **(Original)** The clamp of claim 1 wherein the engaging surface is formed to engage at least a portion of a periphery of the elongate member.

9. **(Original)** The clamp of claim 1 wherein at least a portion of a lengthwise cross-section of the engaging surface is non-linear.

10. **(Cancelled)**

11. **(Original)** The clamp of claim 1 wherein the lever is pivotably attached to the saddle member in a slot, the slot being formed in the saddle member and having at least two distinct positions allowing the lever to pivot from at least two positions.

12. **(Previously Presented)** A clamp for clamping an elongate member comprising in combination:

- a housing for receiving the elongate member;
- a saddle member movably mounted relative to the housing;
- a lever cooperating with the housing for moving the saddle member relative to the housing, wherein the lever is pivotably attached to the saddle member in a slot, the slot being formed in the lever and having at least two distinct positions allowing the lever to pivot from at least two positions; and
- an engaging surface for engaging the elongate member.

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13. **(Previously Presented)** A clamp for clamping an elongate member comprising in combination:

- a housing for receiving the elongate member;
- a platen movably mounted relative to the housing;
- a lever cooperating with the platen for moving the platen relative to the housing, wherein the platen is moved generally transverse to the elongate member; and
- an engaging surface for engaging the elongate member.

14. **(Previously Presented)** A clamp for clamping an elongate member comprising in combination:

- a housing for receiving the elongate member;
- a platen movably mounted relative to the housing;
- a lever cooperating with the platen for moving the platen relative to the housing, wherein the lever includes a lever cam surface having at least one facet cooperating with the platen; and
- an engaging surface for engaging the elongate member.

15. **(Original)** The clamp of claim 14, wherein the lever cam surface defines at least one lever locking position for engaging the elongate member.

16. **(Previously Presented)** A clamp for clamping an elongate member comprising in combination:

- a housing for receiving the elongate member;
- a platen movably mounted relative to the housing;
- a lever cooperating with the platen for moving the platen relative to the housing, wherein the lever cooperates with at least a portion of a platen cam surface on the platen, the platen cam surface being nonplanar in at least a portion of its surface area; and
- an engaging surface for engaging the elongate member.

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17. **(Original)** The clamp of claim 16, wherein the platen cam surface defines at least two lever locking positions for engaging the elongate member.

18. **(Original)** The clamp of claim 13, wherein the lever is pivotably attached to the housing.

19. **(Previously Presented)** The clamp of claim 13, wherein the engaging surface is integrated into the platen for engaging the elongate member.

20. **(Previously Presented)** The clamp of claim 13, wherein the engaging surface is integrated into the housing for engaging the elongate member.

21. **(Previously Presented)** The clamp of claim 13, wherein engaging surfaces are integrated into both the platen and the housing for engaging the elongate member.

22. **(Original)** The clamp of claim 13 wherein the engaging surface is formed to engage at least a portion of a periphery of the elongate member.

23. **(Original)** The clamp of claim 13 wherein at least a portion of a lengthwise cross-section of the engaging surface is non-linear.

24. **(Cancelled)**

25. **(Previously Presented)** A clamp for clamping an elongate member comprising in combination:

a housing for receiving the elongate member;

a platen movably mounted relative to the housing;

a lever cooperating with the platen for moving the platen relative to the housing, wherein at least one spring suspends the platen when the lever is in an open, unengaged, position; and

an engaging surface for engaging the elongate member.

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26. **(Original)** The clamp of claim 25, wherein the spring includes any number, variety and combination of coil spring, leaf spring or resilient chemical compound.

27. **(Previously Presented)** A clamp for clamping an elongate member comprising in combination:

a housing for receiving the elongate member;

a platen movably mounted relative to the housing;

a lever cooperating with the platen for moving the platen relative to the housing, wherein the lever is pivotably attached to the housing member in a slot, the slot being formed in the housing and having at least two distinct positions allowing the lever to pivot from a least two positions; and

an engaging surface for engaging the elongate member.

28. **(Previously Presented)** A clamp for clamping an elongate member comprising in combination:

a housing for receiving the elongate member;

a platen movably mounted relative to the housing;

a lever cooperating with the platen for moving the platen relative to the housing, wherein the lever is pivotably attached to the housing member in a slot, the slot being formed in the lever and having at least two distinct positions allowing the lever to pivot from a least two positions; and

an engaging surface for engaging the elongate member.

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29. **(Previously Presented)** A clamp for clamping an elongate member comprising in combination:

- a housing for receiving the elongate member;
- a saddle member movably mounted relative to the housing;
- a platen movably mounted relative to the housing;
- a lever cooperating with the platen for moving the saddle member and platen relative to the housing, wherein the saddle member and the platen move generally transverse to the elongate member; and
- an engaging surface for engaging the elongate member.

30. **(Previously Presented)** A clamp for clamping an elongate member comprising in combination:

- a housing for receiving the elongate member;
- a saddle member movably mounted relative to the housing;
- a platen movably mounted relative to the housing;
- a lever cooperating with the platen for moving the saddle member and platen relative to the housing, wherein the lever includes a lever cam surface having at least one facet cooperating with the platen; and
- an engaging surface for engaging the elongate member.

31. **(Original)** The clamp of claim 30, wherein the lever cam surface defines at least one lever locking position for engaging the elongate member.

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32. **(Previously Presented)** A clamp for clamping an elongate member comprising in combination:

- a housing for receiving the elongate member;
- a saddle member movably mounted relative to the housing;
- a platen movably mounted relative to the housing;
- a lever cooperating with the platen for moving the saddle member and platen relative to the housing, wherein the lever cooperates with at least a portion of a platen cam surface on the platen, the platen cam surface being nonplanar in at least a portion of its surface area; and
- an engaging surface for engaging the elongate member.

33. **(Original)** The clamp of claim 32, wherein the platen cam surface defines at least two lever locking positions for engaging the elongate member.

34. **(Previously Presented)** A clamp for clamping an elongate member comprising in combination:

- a housing for receiving the elongate member;
- a saddle member movably mounted relative to the housing;
- a platen movably mounted relative to the housing;
- a lever cooperating with the platen for moving the saddle member and platen relative to the housing, wherein the lever is pivotably attached to the saddle member; and
- an engaging surface for engaging the elongate member.

35. **(Previously Presented)** The clamp of claim 29, wherein the engaging surface is integrated into the platen for engaging the elongate member.

36. **(Previously Presented)** The clamp of claim 29, wherein the engaging surface is integrated into the saddle member for engaging the elongate member.

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37. **(Previously Presented)** The clamp of claim 29, wherein engaging surfaces are integrated into both the platen and the saddle member for engaging the elongate member.

38. **(Original)** The clamp of claim 29, wherein the engaging surface is formed to engage at least a portion of a periphery of the elongate member.

39. **(Original)** The clamp of claim 29, wherein at least a portion of a lengthwise cross-section of the engaging surface is non-linear.

40. **(Cancelled)**

41. **(Previously Presented)** A clamp for clamping an elongate member comprising in combination:

a housing for receiving the elongate member;  
a saddle member movably mounted relative to the housing;  
a platen movably mounted relative to the housing;  
a lever cooperating with the platen for moving the saddle member and platen relative to the housing, wherein at least one spring suspends the platen when the lever is in an open, unengaged, position; and  
an engaging surface for engaging the elongate member.

42. **(Original)** The clamp of claim 41, wherein the spring includes any number, variety and combination of coil spring, leaf spring or resilient chemical compound.

43. **(Original)** The clamp of claim 29 wherein the lever is pivotably attached to the saddle member in a slot, the slot being formed in the saddle member and having at least two distinct positions allowing the lever to pivot from at least two positions.



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44. **(Previously Presented)** A clamp for clamping an elongate member comprising in combination:

- a housing for receiving the elongate member;
- a saddle member movably mounted relative to the housing;
- a platen movably mounted relative to the housing;
- a lever cooperating with the platen for moving the saddle member and platen relative to the housing, wherein the lever is pivotably attached to the saddle member in a slot, the slot being formed in the lever and having at least two distinct positions allowing the lever to pivot from at least two positions; and

- an engaging surface for engaging the elongate member.

45. **(Cancelled).**

46. **(Original)** A clamp for clamping an elongate member comprising in combination:

- a housing for receiving the elongate member;
- a platen movably mounted relative to the housing;
- an engaging surface for engaging the elongate member; and
- means for selectively moving the platen relative to the housing.

47. **(Original)** A clamp for clamping an elongate member comprising in combination:

- a housing for receiving the elongate member;
- a platen movably mounted relative to the housing;
- a saddle member movable mounted relative to the housing;
- an engaging surface for engaging the elongate member; and
- means for selectively moving the platen and saddle member relative to the housing.

Claims 48-51. **(Cancelled).**

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52. **(Original)** A method of clamping an elongate member using a medical device comprising in combination the steps of:

inserting an end of the elongate member into a clamping device; and  
applying a clamping force to the elongate member through a platen.

53. **(Cancelled)**

inserting an end of the elongate member through the body of a cable tensioner and clamping device housing;

applying a clamping force to the elongate member through a saddle member; and  
using the cable tensioner to apply tension to the elongate member.

55. **(Previously Presented)** A method of clamping an elongate member in a medical device comprising in combination the steps of:

inserting an end of the elongate member through the body of a cable tensioner and clamping device housing;

applying a clamping force to the elongated member through a platen; and  
using the cable tensioner to apply tension to the elongate member.

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56. **(Previously Presented)** A system of clamping an elongated member, comprising:  
a housing for receiving the elongate member;  
a saddle member movably mounted relative to the housing;  
a lever cooperating with the housing for moving the saddle member relative to the housing;  
an engaging surface for engaging the elongate member;  
a first coupling surface on the housing; and  
a tensioning tool configured with a second coupling surface, whereby the second coupling surface interfaces with the first coupling surface so as to allow the tensioning tool and housing to be assembled.

57. **(Previously Presented)** The system of claim 56 wherein the first and second coupling surfaces housing are configured to be releasably assembled.

58. **(Previously Presented)** A system of clamping an elongated member, comprising:  
a housing for receiving the elongate member;  
a saddle member movably mounted relative to the housing;  
a lever cooperating with the housing for moving the saddle member relative to the housing;  
an engaging surface for engaging the elongate member; and  
a tensioning tool configured to assemble to the housing, wherein the tensioning tool in operation can cause a tension force to be exerted on the elongated member.

59. **(Previously Presented)** The system of claim 58, wherein the tensioning tool is configured to releasably assemble to the housing.

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